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## Hawaiian Gazette

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SAM'L C. ALLEN.

## Hawaiian Gazette

### TEN-PAGE EDITION.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1889.

#### LETTERS FROM THE 'OLD COUNTRY.

NO. XXI.—BY E. L. D.

This series of notes of travel in the British Islands began in the GAZETTE, but was interrupted by the pressure of reports of the Legislature. The letters are now resumed for completion in response to the desire of many readers of those formerly published.

A very pleasant experience has been given us the past week, in meeting with some of the bright friends who shared in the delights of our Killarney trip. Their wanderings have led them through the most charming of the continental excursions and scenery, and now on their homeward way, they rested a week in London. Loath to part with them, we resolved to share their journey for a few miles, and notwithstanding the fact that a heavy storm of wind and rain was rendering travel difficult and sightseeing improbable, we rolled out of Paddington depot in good spirits and glad of the change. For days and weeks of experience with the "ragged edge of suspense," render even atmospheres teeming with history and bristling with present events, oppressive and lacking in interest. In an hour's time we had left the dreary storm behind, and blue skies and light clouds looked down upon us, as we alighted at Oxford. A carriage and intelligent driver were soon helping us make the most of the few hours we could devote to this learned place. Our first visit was to Christ Church College. This is the largest of the twenty-one colleges which are used in constructing this seat of learning. It was founded by Cardinal Wolsey in 1525, and a marble statue of himself is over the massive gateway through which we pass in entering the first quadrangle. This gateway is surmounted by a tower in which hangs the famous bell, "Great Tom," weighing 17,000 lbs. We pass from one quadrangle to others, visiting chapel, libraries, halls and courts, all full of deepest interest. Rare old pictures, grand carvings, quaint windows and superb entrances. Dormitories occupied by the Prince of Wales and Prince Leopold, also Gladstone, are pointed out. Incidents in their school lives related, and finally we are ushered into the "broad walk," one of the finest avenues in England. The vista seen in two directions, is over one-fourth of a mile, and the grand old trees that clasp hands overhead, were planted over 200 years ago, by Bishop Fell, who is immortalized in the minds of many by the lines:

I do not like you, Dr. Fell; the reason why I cannot tell.  
But this I know full well, I do not like you, Dr. Fell.

We are driven rapidly from one college to another. Weeks would scarce suffice for a visit to each, but some point of architecture, spire, or window, gateway or court, was chosen to add to the mosaic, that memory was infusing from this visit. We visited the chapel of Keble College, hoping to find there Hunt's famous picture of "The Light of the World," but learned too late, we should have looked for it in the library of the same college. However, in the same chapel, we found some marvellous mosaics upon the walls, illustrating the relationship of the Old to the New Testament, through scenes in the Patriarchal, Jewish and Christian periods of the Church. Some exquisite carving and stained glass added to the embellishments also. A few minutes were spent in the Chapel of New College, which though implying youth and modern style, by its name, was nevertheless founded in 1386 and is among the oldest of the colleges. It was peculiarly rich from its commencement, being most liberally endowed, and as the centuries have worn upon its original construction, the restorations necessary have been made with the view of preserving as perfectly as possible, the original plans of the founder. The details of the interior of the chapel, are very rich, and the west window pleased us more than any we have ever seen. It was painted from designs furnished by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and is remarkable for the absence of the brilliant blue and red so common in memorial windows. The purity of the subjects made prominent by the white light, in contrast to the heavy shadings of the background, was very impressive. A half hour was spent in the Bodleian Library. This contains 30,000 manuscripts, and 450,000 volumes. A copy of every book printed in England and copyrighted, has to be placed upon the shelves, consequently the growth is steady and rapid. Curiosities in literature are many. An illustrated account of the incarnation of Vishnu, covering a strip of papyrus four inches wide and forty seven

feet long, is artificially displayed, and is beautiful in color and execution. The gallery above contains, beside a number of paintings, the models of ancient temples. The Cathedral of Calcutta in miniature of alabaster, is as beautiful a conception in architecture as it has been our good fortune to see. The Sheldonian Theater is the place where all honorary degrees are conferred on the most distinguished men of the age. The roof of this hall is the largest known that is unsupported by any arch or column. It is seventy by eighty feet, and is decorated with an immense painting. In the Ashmolean museum we found much to interest and instruct. One room was quite filled with the Arundel marbles, brought from Smyrna, and valuable for their ancient inscriptions. Time did not permit even a glance at many of the rare and curious remains gathered from the past, but our attention was kindly directed to the oldest known stone bearing an inscription and which is calculated as having been inscribed 4700 years B. C. Graven for all time were the words that sprang to our lips, as we looked upon its face, still fair and clear, and then our eyes fell upon a collection of Egyptian mummies, in various stages of disintegration, the hand of one being entirely unwrapped. "There is nothing covered that shall not be revealed," seemed practically proved by this slender hand once so full of warm life and now an object of curious interest to those who count the centuries by decades since its life work was done. Among the British antiquities is "King Alfred's Jewel," a beautiful specimen of gold enamelled work inscribed (translated) "Alfred ordered me to be made." The watches of Queen Elizabeth and Cromwell, the former thickly set with turquoise, the fob chain having every link inscribed. Boots and gloves worn by her majesty also, and a gold drinking cup of her time. The iron band that confined Cranmer to the stake at his execution and other relics of that dread time. This museum is the first of which there is any record in England. The building of the old Divinity School nearly joins the museum, and was erected in 1445. It has suffered severely in the past from ravages of time and man, and its original glory cannot be truthfully estimated, but it has figured largely in history. Bishops Latimer and Cranmer passed their final examinations here. When driven from London by the plague Parliament convened here. During civil war it was used as a storehouse for corn, and in Cromwell's time its vestibule was turned into a pig market. The Consecration House adjoining is where degrees are conferred on students who have passed successful examinations. A large tree near one of the windows, is said to be the one under which Bishop Heber wrote "From Greenland's icy mountains." In one of the principal streets we were shown a spot (marked by a stone cross sunk in the earth) which is burnt into the pages of history, as the place where Bishops Ridley, Latimer and Cranmer suffered death at the stake. A martyr's memorial has been erected in another part of the city, in which full length figures of each appear. The memorial as a whole is very handsome, Oxford is rich in churches as well as colleges, and has figured in English history since 726. It now contains 38,000 inhabitants. The pupils in the college number over 1,000. The ringing of "Great Tom" at 9 o'clock every evening is the signal for all students to be in their rooms.

#### CAMPBELL CONCERTS.

Two Grand Performances Coming—Sacred Concert and Complimentary Benefit.

The Campbell Company had another small but very appreciative audience at their presentation of "The Happy Pair" in the Opera House on Saturday evening. In spite of the dispiriting aspect of empty chairs, Signor Campbell and Miss Grace Porter performed the comedy with an animated skill that won hearty applause at each of the many good hits made.

A grand sacred concert will be given by the Campbell Operatic Combination in Kaimakapili Church on Thursday evening next. This will be the fifth in the subscription series by the Campbell company, and with it will be combined the sixth organ recital in the series conducted by Mr. Wray Taylor, organist of that church. Solos will be sung, and a trio also, by Signor Campbell, Miss Grace Porter and Mr. Chas. Throver, and Mr. Schmidt will perform on the violin. These numbers, together with the organ recital programme, will make one of the finest concerts ever given here. The Campbell series will close on Saturday evening at the Opera House, with a complimentary benefit concert tendered by several prominent gentlemen. On that occasion the principal airs of "Lucia di Lammermoor" will be given, also selections from the "Barber of Seville." Further particulars will be announced later.

A more complete stock of Dress Goods, could not be displayed than that now exhibited at Sachs' store, 104 Fort street. It comprises all the new shades, plaids and fancy striped goods.

#### TWO FIRES.

Burning of E. G. Schumann's House at Waikiki—E. R. Ryan Loses His Boat Works a Second Time.

Mr. E. G. Schumann's house at Waikiki was destroyed by fire on Saturday night. It caught shortly after 10 o'clock from a lamp upset by Mr. G. Schumann, brother of the former, while engaged in killing mosquitoes in his room. Mr. E. G. Schumann was down on the bridge when he heard the cries of fire, and when he reached the house it was all in flames. Only a lounge and a few chairs were saved out of his own room, that being situated away from the starting point of the fire. The loss is figured at \$2,000, on which Mr. Schumann believes there is an unexpired policy, but he does not remember the amount, and the agent to whom he refers cannot say without consulting the books in his office. This he could not do before opening this morning.

A few minutes before 3 o'clock on Sunday afternoon fire was discovered in Mr. E. R. Ryan's boat-building shop on the Esplanade, close to the rear of Mr. Geo. Lucas' Honolulu Planing Mills. The first alarm was quickly followed by a general alarm, bringing with the fire brigade an immense crowd of spectators. Engine Company No. 1 Volunteer Boys arrived in very short time first on the spot, and, fastening their hose to the plug on Fort street at the front of the planing mills, they played a good stream until the engine of the same company relieved them. Then two streams were played by that engine, while Engine No. 2 was playing from the hydrant at the corner of Fort and Queen streets. The fire was quickly got under control and stopped from spreading, but in the short space of time much damage was done.

The building, a rough shed sixty by thirty feet, was completely destroyed. It belonged to the Government. Mr. Ryan lost three new surf boats, one twenty-two feet and the others twenty-four feet in length; also the prepared frames of three more boats, all the tools, including a drilling machine, and nails, tar, oakum, oak timbers and other material. A large surf boat in addition to the above was pulled out by willing hands, but the planking was all charred and will have to be wholly replaced. Fortunately two or three valuable boats were lying outside of the shed and so escaped.

Mr. Ryan, who was on his way to Waikiki when he met people hurrying to the fire, has no idea how it caught. All hands had left the shop at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon, and he knows of nobody having gone back anytime before the fire. He estimates the loss roughly at \$2,500, on which there is insurance of \$1,500 or thereabouts (he not having the policy at hand when spoken to). Mr. Ryan was burned out of another boat shop, a short distance in rear of this one, and lost everything, by a fire in the summer of 1886.

The flames before being subdued caught a wooden building belonging to Mr. Lucas, containing a sub-office, tool and material rooms, etc. One end of this building was thoroughly charred, and will require complete renewal, but the flames were not permitted to go further.

#### ACCIDENTAL DEATH.